CANADIAN COURANT EXTRA.

MONTREAL, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 24, 1828.

PROVINCIAL PARLIAMENT OF *LOWER-CANADA.*

LEGISLATIVE COUNCIL CHAMBER, QUEBEC, November 21, 1828.

This day, at two o'clock, His Excellency SIR JAMES KEMPT came down in State to the Legislative Council Chamber, and being seated on the Throne, the Gentleman Usher of the Black Rod was sent down to the House of Assembly to command their attendance before His Excellency, and that House being come up, the Speaker of the Legislative Council said:

Gentlemen of the Assembly.

"I am commanded by His Excellency to inform you that He does not see fit to declare the causes for which He has summoned this Provincial Parliament, until there be a Speaker of the Assembly, duly elected and approved. And I am further commanded to enquire whether you have proceeded to the Election of a Speaker; and, if you have, upon whom your choice has fallen."

To which Mr. Papineau replied:

May it please your Excellency,

"In obedience to His Majesty's commands, the House of Assembly has proceeded to the Election of a Speaker, and I am the person upon whom their choice has fallen. I respectfully pray that it may please your Excellency to give your approbation to their choice."

Upon which the Speaker of the Legislative Council said,

Mr. Papineau,

"I am commanded by His Excellency to acquaint you that He approves the choice which the Assembly has made of you to be their Speaker, and, relying upon your loyalty, talents and discretion, He doth allow and confirm your election."

Mr. Papineau then made the usual claim to the privileges of the Assembly, to which His Excellency's assent was given in the accustomed form.

His Excellency was then pleased to open the Session with the following Speech:

Gentlemen of the Legislative Council.
Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

His Majesty having been most graciously pleased to confide to me the Government of this important Colony, it affords me great satisfaction to meet you in Provincial Parliament.

Placed in a situation of so much importance, at a period of peculiar difficulty, I cannot but feel that very arduous duties are imposed upon me; duties indeed, which I should despair of being able to discharge, to the satisfaction of His Majesty and his faithful and loyal subjects the Inhabitants of this Province, if I did not look forward, with a sanguine hope, to the enjoyment of your confidence, and your cordial co-operation in my Administration of the Government.

Without a good understanding between the different Branches of the Legislature, the Public Affairs of the Colony cannot prosper; the evils, which are now experienced, cannot be effectually cured; the prosperity and welfare of his Majesty's Canadian subjects cannot be promoted; and you may therefore believe that no exertions will be spared on my part, to promote conciliation, by measures in which the undoubted prerogatives of the Crown, and your Constitutional Privileges, will be equally respected.

His Majesty's Government has, however, relieved me from the responsibility attendant upon any measures to be adopted for the adjustment of the financial difficulties that have unfortunately occurred; and I shall take an early opportunity of conveying to you by Message, a communication from His Majesty, which I have been specially commanded to make to you upon the subject of the appropriation of the Provincial Revenue.

It will be my duty to lay at the same time before you, the views of his Majesty's Government upon other topics connected with the Government of this Province, to which the attention of the Ministers of the Crown has been called:—You will see in them proofs of the earnest desire of His Majesty's Government, to provide, as far as may be practicable, an effectual remedy for any case of real grievance; and you may rely on my affording you every assistance towards the elucidation of any questions which may arise for discussion in the course of your proceedings.

Gentlemen of the House of Assembly—

I shall direct the Accounts of the Provincial Revenue and Expenditure for the last two years, to be laid before you, as soon as possible, with every explanation respecting them, which it is in my power to afford you.

Gentlemen of the Legislative Council,
Gentlemen of the House of Assembly,

Relying on your zeal and diligence in the discharge of your Legislative Duties, I feel persuaded that you will give your immediate attention to the renewal of such useful Acts as may have recently expired; and, indeed, to all matters of Public interest that may appear to be of pressing necessity and importance.

Possessing, as yet, but an imperfect knowledge of the great interests of the Province, and the wants of its inhabitants, I refrain, at the present time, from recommending to you measures of Public improvement, which it will be my duty to bring under your consideration at a future day.—In all countries, however, good roads and other internal communications;—a general system of Education, established upon sound principles;—and a well-organised, efficient Militia Force, are found to be so conductive to the prosperity, the happiness, and the security of their inhabitants, that I may be permitted to mention them, at present, as objects of prominent utility.

But an oblivion of all past jealousies and dissensions is the first great step towards improvement of any kind; and, when that is happily accomplished, and the undivided attention of the Executive Government, and the Legislature, shall be given to the advancement of the general interests of the Province, in a spirit of cordial co-operation, there is no reason to doubt that Lower-Canada will rapidly advance in prosperity; and emulate, ere long, the most opulent and flourishing portions of the North American continent.

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